



Division of State Parks

General #00-8	Research Permit	Rev. 3/2014	Page 1 of 5
------------------	-----------------	----------------	----------------

REFERENCES:

POLICY: The Nevada Division of State Parks welcomes proposals for scientific studies designed to increase understanding of the human and ecological processes and resources in parks and proposals that seek to use the unique values of parks to develop scientific understanding for public benefit. Research may be permitted as long as it can be conducted in a manner that does not threaten or diminish the resources for which the park(s) was established.

PURPOSE The Division manages state lands that contain a wide variety of outstanding natural and cultural values. Preserving park resources and providing appropriate visitor uses of parks requires a full understanding of park natural resource components, their interrelationships and processes, and visitor interests that can be obtained only by the long-term accumulation and analysis of information produced by science. In addition, research on Division lands can contribute to and improve understanding of our natural and cultural world and legacy.

GUIDELINES: A research permit (Attachment C) is required for most research activities pertaining to natural or cultural resources that involve field work, specimen collection, require the installation or storage of equipment or materials and/or have the potential to disturb resources or visitors.

- I. A permit is required for any project involving the collection, removal or disturbance of any natural or cultural resource of any state park unit and for projects that require placing monitoring equipment in any state park unit.

Use permits are usually issued for the following reasons:

- A. To allow a party to use state park lands and facilities for a purpose which would otherwise be unlawful or in violation of policy.
- B. The investigation and collection of natural or cultural resources.
- C. To allow a party to use State Park lands and property for a lawful purpose, but on a large enough scale that it may conflict with other normal use.
- D. To place or erect a fence or barrier, to construct or occupy improvements, or to enclose the lands.
- E. To collect any plants, including seeds and cuttings, or the damaging of any vegetation.
- F. To establish temporary or permanent plot markers.
- G. To work in a closed area or to transport equipment or persons to a research site by motorized vehicle in areas where they are prohibited.

General #00-8	Research Permit	Rev. 3/2014	Page 2 of 5
--------------------------	------------------------	------------------------	------------------------

H. To store equipment or materials on site for more than 24 hours. This provision does not apply to lawfully occupy designated campsites.

2. All activities performed under a permit issued by the Nevada Division of State Parks must be conducted by or under direct supervision of a professionally qualified individual. Any individual may apply to complete research on Division lands if he/she has the qualifications and experience to conduct the proposed research. Minimum qualifications would generally include:
 - o A graduate degree in a relevant and appropriate field of study.
 - o Demonstrated ability in completing a project similar to the proposed project in type and scope as evidenced by completing the previous work in a timely and complete manner with the completion/publication of theses, research papers, and similar documents.
 - o Representing or sponsored by an academic, scientific, governmental, or other qualified institution or organization that proposes to complete research on state lands.
 - o Students and others who do not meet minimum qualifications for obtaining a permit may conduct work under the supervision of an applicant who meets the qualifications and is willing to obtain a permit and be responsible for the activities under it. The permit holder must agree to supervise project planning, fieldwork, scientific evaluations, and the completion and submission of reports.

Adjustments meeting the intent of the basic minimum qualifications criteria may be made by the Regional Manager on a case by case bases when extenuating circumstances would indicate an applicant has the ability to complete the research and when the research would benefit the Division.

3. All materials collected within park boundaries remain state parks property unless approval has been provided for materials to be consumed in analysis or discarded after analysis. The entity or institution receiving the material must be an organization that is capable of handling, cataloging, caring for, and preserving such material and associated records, agrees to bear the cost of these requirements, and can make these materials available to other scientists engaged in similar research. The receiving entity must accept the materials with the understanding that they will remain the property of the State of Nevada and may not be sold, bartered, or disposed of in any way without the consent of the Nevada Division of State Parks. This does not preclude, however, the placing of these materials on loan to other entities for similar research if such loans are properly documented and the material can be retrieved upon request.

Repositories receiving the material from state lands must provide evidence of its capability of providing adequate long-term curatorial services and that by agreeing to accept the collections the repository agrees to bear the costs of these curatorial services including preparation/preservation costs if not completed by the researcher. All material collected must also be accessioned and catalogued into the park's museum collection.

4. Activities that occur as part of a typical visit to any state park, such as wildflower photography or wildlife observation, do not require a permit. Requests for personal or commercial collecting, or for projects that do not address specific research needs, will be denied. School trips for purposes of simple observation do not require a permit.
5. In some cases, other federal or state agency permits or approvals may be required before permits may be approved. Examples are permits from the Fish and Wildlife Service for threatened and

General #00-8	Research Permit	Rev. 3/2014	Page 3 of 5
--------------------------	------------------------	------------------------	------------------------

endangered species, archaeological or historical permits by the Nevada State Museum and/or State Historic Preservation Office. It is the responsibility of the principal investigator to provide State Parks with copies of such permits when they submit an application (Attachment B). Applicants are encouraged to contact park staff to determine if additional permits may be required in conjunction with a proposed study.

6. Day use fees will be waived for approved research activities. Campground or other fees may be waived by the Regional Manager. Fee waivers are solely dependent on whether the research benefits the park and/or Division.
7. Permits may be issued for a maximum period of three years, renewable on an annual basis. Permit renewals are not automatic, they will only be granted upon meeting the annual and other requirements of the permit. Although the permit is for a specified period, all terms and conditions of this permit, including reporting requirements, shall remain in effect until all outstanding obligations have been satisfied, whether or not the term of the permit has expired.
8. All collecting and investigations must be done in a manner that minimizes the impact on the unit's resources. When appropriate, the park shall set specific conditions requiring that the scientific work be done in an inconspicuous manner, away from roads, trails, and developed areas. All disturbances shall be restored and the area shall be left as near to original condition as is practicable.
9. Standard conditions for permits are listed in Attachment A. A list of "special conditions" will be developed, as necessary, for each approved research use permit on a case-by-case basis.
10. An annual, year-end report summarizing the activity conducted under this permit should be submitted to the Park Supervisor by December 31st of each year for which the permit is issued. The report will include a listing of all sites along with a summary of activities at all sites, with a list of any material collected, along with registration data (if available, if not the location of the materials should be provided). The researcher will make locality data available and associated records. Expected completion date and plans for future work. The Division may require the submission of interim reports in addition to project reports and may make the submission of these additional interim reports a criterion for permit issuance. Copies of all publications and final reports arising from the project will be provided to the park.
11. Field work conducted under the authority of this permit shall be carried out in such a manner not to impede other legitimate uses of state lands, except for special provisions specifically provided in this permit under "special conditions". Work completed under this permit must be consistent with park statutes, regulations, and policies.
12. This permit will not be used where there is any type of monetary exchange.

PROCEDURES:

- I. Submit a research application for work on State Park lands (Attachment C).
- II. The permit application shall have attached a research proposal document to the permit application. At a minimum, this proposal must include:
 - o Names of all people to be included on permit (including research associates/students)

General #00-8	Research Permit	Rev. 3/2014	Page 4 of 5
------------------	-----------------	----------------	----------------

- Applicant's address, including telephone number and email address
- Note that research permits will only be issued through the end of one calendar year, at which time the applicant must submit a brief progress report and renewal request
- Describe the need for the research *and provide* a written operational plan that identifies (a) the purpose and the need for requested activities (b) research or educational objectives (c) methods and procedures and (d) description of the benefits that may accrue from the requested activities (e) impacts of the research to park lands and visitors, (f) dates and locations the research is to be conducted and (g) a map or detailed description of study area location(s) within the park(s).
- Describe any expected benefits of the project to the natural or cultural resources at the park and/or for more effective protection or management of those resources.
- Name, address, and contact for the repository for any planned material to be collected. Repositories are subject to the approval of the Division. The repository must have adequate long-term curatorial capabilities and must agree to provide curatorial services *and to provide* the housing of material collected during the proposed project. Parks will be provided a list of all specimens and accession numbers and will assign NDSP catalog numbers to be placed on any collected materials.
- Type of report expected from this project (i.e., referred journal article, thesis, dissertation, book, unpublished report), and projected completion date of report.

III. State parks provide important research opportunities on public lands, however, research within state parks is a **privilege and should not conflict with State Park's mission to preserve natural and cultural resources for future generations**. It is, therefore, appropriate and necessary to attach appropriate requirements and conditions to these use permits.

All research permits should:

- Be reviewed to determine that there will be only acceptable impacts to the resource, or the historic integrity of the site. This determination will be made by the regional manager.
- Be evaluated for resource management implications. When appropriate, the applicant should be encouraged to modify their experimental design to provide information useful to the management, restoration, or protection of the park's resources.
- Require the submission of a written report and/or any publications of the findings of the research to be provided to the park. Upon request, the permittee should also provide a copy of the raw data.

IV. Some circumstances under which a permit request may be **denied** include:

- Benefit of research does not outweigh potential damage to natural or cultural resources.
- Proposed research would significantly interfere with other previously approved research.
- Proposed research would significantly interfere with appropriate public use of the site.
- Deficiencies in qualifications or experimental design.

V. Use permits for natural and/or cultural research must be approved by the Park Supervisor and Regional Manager. Potentially controversial research will also be approved by the Deputy Administrator.

- VI. For research activities that may include liability to State Parks employees, visitors, or resources and facilities, the Park Supervisor may require liability insurance consistent with special use permits. Insurance should be considered for work that would not be covered under NRS 41.
- VII. Parks must receive annual and final reports for all permitted activities. Park Supervisors may also request copies of field notes, data, reports, publications and/or other materials resulting from studies conducted in NDSP areas. Additional deliverables may be required of studies involving NDSP funding or participation.

Original signed by:	
SIGNED	3/25/14
Eric Johnson, Administrator	Date

Original signed by:	
SIGNED	3/26/14
Leo M. Drozdoff, Director	Effective Date

Review Date: _____

Standard Permit Conditions

1. The Nevada Division of State Parks welcomes interest in considering State Park lands as research sites. Scientific studies designed to increase understanding of ecological processes and resources in parks are a valuable source of information for park managers.
2. Special conditions and review will be required for all investigations/collections including the requirement for additional permits.
3. Collections shall be used for scientific or interpretive purposes only, shall be dedicated to the public benefit, and shall not be used for commercial purposes. General classroom collecting is not allowed.
4. All collecting must be done away from roads, trails, and developed areas, unless such localities are specified in the permit. Unless specifically stated in this permit, the use of the area is nonexclusive and public access is maintained.
5. The Nevada Division of State Parks maintains **unrestricted access** to the permitted area.
6. Permittee shall submit a copy of information gathered or generated in association with this permit, including all publications, to the Park Supervisor.
7. Collector is to contact the Park Supervisor before beginning any field activity under the permit, and to carry a copy of the permit together with copies of any required additional permits.
8. The permittee is responsible for ensuring that all persons working on the project adhere to the permit conditions and applicable laws and regulations. If collections are not made to the satisfaction of the Division, the permit may be immediately cancelled.
9. This permit is for a specified period. All terms and conditions of this permit, including reporting requirements, shall remain in effect until all outstanding obligations have been satisfied, whether or not the term of the permit has expired.
10. The permittee is required to remove all markers or equipment from the field after the completion of the study or prior to the expiration date of this permit.
11. Collections of materials from lands managed by the Nevada Division of State Parks under the provisions of this permit remain the property of the State of Nevada and may be recalled at any time.
12. Travel within park is restricted to only those methods that are available to the general public unless special access to restricted areas is specified in this permit.
13. If liability insurance is required for this project, documentation must be provided that it has been obtained and is current before this permit is valid.
14. The collecting shall be done in an inconspicuous manner, and shall not cause damage to the environment. All disturbances shall be restored and the area shall be left as near to original condition as is practicable.
15. The permittee shall comply with all terms of the approved application/proposal, including repository. All costs shall be borne by the permittee.
16. All applicable laws and regulations must be observed by the Permittee in exercising the privileges granted in the permit.



NEVADA DIVISION OF STATE PARKS RESEARCH PERMIT APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS & INFORMATION

1. Complete the application form.
2. Completed applications will be reviewed by the Park Supervisor and resource management staff. If there are questions or concerns you will be contacted.
3. Early submission of your completed application is strongly advised. The turn-around time varies from 2 weeks to over a month depending on the complexity of the request, season of year, work loads, etc

Send Application To:

RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION & CONTACT INFORMATION

Research Project Title:			
Name of Principal Investigator:		Advisor's Name (if student):	
Institutional Affiliation:			
Address (Street address, city, state, zip code):			
Work Telephone:	Home Telephone:	Fax:	E-mail:
Field Crew Members (List Field Supervisor first, if designated)			
Name		Address	

PROJECT LOCATION- Attach map(s) showing proposed study sites

State Parks included in the study area:

Reason for park(s) selection:

RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A detailed narrative description of the project for which a permit is being applied for must be attached or the application will be returned. Information to be included in the narrative is listed on the attached separate research proposal document to the permit application. At a minimum, this proposal must include:

- Names of all people to be included on permit (including research associates/students)
- Applicant's address, including telephone number and email address
- Note that use permits will only be issued through the end of one calendar year, at which time the applicant must submit a brief progress report and renewal request
- Describe the need for the research and provide a written operational plan that identifies (a) the purpose and the need for requested activities (b) research or educational objectives (c) methods and procedures and (d) description of the benefits that may accrue from the requested activities (e) impacts of the research to park lands and visitors, (f) dates and locations the research is to be conducted and (g) A map or detailed description of study area location(s) within the park(s).
- Describe any expected benefits of the project to the natural or cultural resources at the park and/or for more effective protection or management of those resources.
- Name, address, and contact for the repository for any planned material to be collected. Repositories are subject to the approval of the Division. The repository must have adequate long-term curatorial capabilities and must agree to provide curatorial services and to provide the housing of material collected during the proposed project. Parks will be provided a list of all specimens and accession numbers and will assign NDSP catalog numbers to be placed on any collected materials.
- Type of report expected from this project (i.e., referred journal article, thesis, dissertation, book, unpublished report), and projected completion date of report

ADDITIONAL PERMITS OR LICENSES

List any additional permits or licenses needed for the activities described above	Permit Number	Status

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____



NEVADA DIVISION OF STATE PARKS RESEARCH PERMIT

In accordance with NRS 232.070 and NRS 407.067, and in consideration of the provisions contained herein, the STATE OF NEVADA, DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF STATE PARKS, does hereby grant this RESEARCH PERMIT to:

Research Project Title:			
Name of Principal Investigator:		Advisors Name (if student):	
Institutional Affiliation:			
Address (Street address, city, state, zip code):			
Work Telephone:	Home Telephone:	Fax:	E-mail:
Field Crew Members (List Field Supervisor first, if designated)			
State Parks/areas approved for study:			
Authorized Start Date:		Expiration Date:	
Standard and special permit conditions are listed on the back of this permit			

The permittee agrees to will not waive and intends to assert available NRS chapter 41 liability limitations in all cases. defend, protect, indemnify, and hold harmless the STATE OF NEVADA, its officers, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, losses, suits, or actions of whatever nature resulting from or arising out of the activities of the permittee, its subcontractors, or employees, under this agreement and to pay all claims, damages, judgments, legal costs, or any other expense or liability related thereto: liability of both parties shall not be subject to punitive damages.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

This permit is not valid until the following signatures are obtained.

Signature, Park Supervisor: _____ Date: _____

Signature, Regional Manager: _____ Date: _____

A copy of this permit must be carried by the individual(s) named in Line 8 whenever fieldwork is in progress.

Standard Conditions and Restrictions for Archaeological, Biological, Geological Investigation/Collection Permits

1. The Nevada Division of State Parks welcomes interest in considering State Park lands as research sites. Scientific studies designed to increase understanding of ecological processes and resources in parks are a valuable source of information for park managers.
2. Special conditions and review will be required for all investigations/collections including the requirement for additional permits.
3. Collections shall be used for scientific or interpretive purposes only, shall be dedicated to the public benefit, and shall not be used for commercial purposes. General classroom collecting is not allowed.
4. All collecting must be done away from roads, trails, and developed areas, unless such localities are specified in the permit. Unless specifically stated in this permit, the use of the area is nonexclusive and public access is maintained.
5. The Nevada Division of State Parks maintains unrestricted access to the permitted area.
6. Permittee shall submit a copy of information gathered or generated in association with this permit, including all publications, to the Park Supervisor.
7. Collector is to contact the Park Supervisor before beginning any field activity under the permit, and to carry a copy of the permit together with copies of any required additional permits.
8. The permittee is responsible for ensuring that all persons working on the project adhere to the permit conditions and applicable laws and regulations. If collections are not made to the satisfaction of the Division, the permit may be immediately cancelled.
9. This permit is for a specified period. All terms and conditions of this permit, including reporting requirements, shall remain in effect until all outstanding obligations have been satisfied, whether or not the term of the permit has expired.
10. The permittee is required to remove all markers or equipment from the field after the completion of the study or prior to the expiration date of this permit.
11. Collections of materials from lands managed by the Nevada Division of State Parks under the provisions of this permit remain the property of the State of Nevada and may be recalled at any time.
12. Travel within park is restricted to only those methods that are available to the general public unless special access to restricted areas is specified in this permit.
13. If liability insurance is required for this project, documentation must be provided that it has been obtained and is current before this permit is valid.
14. The collecting shall be done in an inconspicuous manner, and shall not cause damage to the environment. All disturbances shall be restored and the area shall be left as near to original condition as is practicable.
15. The permittee shall comply with all terms of the approved application/proposal, including repository. All costs shall be borne by the permittee.
16. All applicable laws and regulations must be observed by the Permittee in exercising the privileges granted in the permit.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Questions regarding this permit should be directed to the Park Supervisor.